

The Westend Weekly

Bringing Communities Together



Box 66, 303 Fifth St., Rainy River, ON POW 1L0 Ph. 852-3815, FAX 852-1863, e-mail: westendweekly@tbaytel.net - Serving the District for over 19 years VOL. 19, NO. 11 Wednesday, June 15, 2011
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Ownership of Pithers Point still being litigated



Lots of people took advantage of a beautiful day to enjoy the beach and the water during our recent power outage.

By Marlene Deschamps

With computers, TV and other electronics out of commission on Sunday, June 12th and the weather being very summerlike, many headed outdoors. Aside from those working in their gardens and yards, many more people than usual were walking, biking and skateboarding in various sites and parks around Fort Frances. There were also many who chose to go down to Pithers

Point and enjoy the beach and water. Although summer is two weeks away and the water is not that warm, there were many children splashing near the beach and swimming out from shore.

In speaking with Mayor Roy Avis about ownership of Pithers Point, he said he really did not have much to report. There is a court injunction that states the Town can use the area

but at this point there still has been no decision as to who owns the property. Since the lease ended in 1999, the Town has been involved in negotiations and in the courts. Mayor Avis said it is still in litigation and they just have to wait and see what the decision will be. In the meantime, people can still use this beautiful area for family fun such as they did on Sunday.

West End Motors had a great 65th Sell-A-Bration



Chad Avis, 3rd generation of the West End Motors family.

By Marlene Deschamps

West End Motors celebrated 65 years of operation with a huge sale of its vehicles, both new and used held at the Arena. The floors of both arenas were used to showcase the latest Ram, Dodge, Chrysler and Jeep models available at West End Motors as well as a variety of good used cars and trucks.

On site for almost all the three day event was Chad Avis representing the 3rd generation of the Avis family who started it

all 65 years ago. Chad returned to Fort Frances 7 years ago after attending University in Windsor where he obtained an honours and Masters in Business Administration. He started working at West End Motors in 2005 and said the long term plan is for him to take over operations when his father (Roy) retires just as his father took over from his father (Alan) when he retired. He said that he was also pleased that they extended their business to

Emo in order to serve the west end of the district. He said they have a great group of people there and they are doing well. Chad, his wife, Lynne and their 3 children enjoy life in Fort Frances and feel that they and Fort Frances are going forward into a bright future.

The sale prices and perks available during the three day event will still be pushed through to the end of the month.

Fort Frances High School going Solar



Pictured from left, Luis Rodrigues, VP. Energy Solutions Honeywell, Joerg Ruppenstein FFPC, Michael Pringle Honeywell, Chelsea Hill, student, Natasha Shack, FFHS teacher, just in front of her is Jolene Stahn, student, Heather Campbell, Director of Education RRDSB, Raymond Roy, RRDSB Manager of Plant Operations, just in front of Roy is Dianne McCormick, RRDSB Vice Chair, Darlene Madill and kneeling is Wayne Sunohara, Project Manager for the project and previous phases of the program.

By Marlene Deschamps

Fort Frances High School was the site of introduction of the Energy & Facility Renewal Solar Phase of the program. While the crowd who gathered to hear the speakers waited, they were entertained by Lisa Loney and the Fort Frances High School Band.

Plant Manager Raymond Roy welcomed everyone who came to attend the news conference. He said it was a great pleasure to be able to host the media launch of the solar phase of the Energy Retrofit and Renewal Program. The program was launched in 2005 in partnership with Honeywell. He announced that the RRDSB was installing a 100 kW solar system on the roof of the Fort Frances High School. Since the beginning of the program a savings of \$615,000 has been realized. He noted that with an agreement with the Ontario Power Authority and

Honeywell, the Board would have a guaranteed revenue stream of approximately \$105,000 annually. He then thanked a number of people who had been involved with the program before he introduced guest speaker, Luis Rodrigues. He quoted "We're excited to be able to deliver bottom line energy savings while improving the district's schools and providing educational opportunities. Through the technologies they've integrated into their schools, the Rainy River District School Board will provide the region with long term energy and environmental savings." Also speaking at the news conference were: Dianne McCormack, Vice Chair of the Board; Natasha Shack, FFHS teacher and part of the Environmental Educational steering committee. Two student also spoke. They were Chelsea Hill who spoke of other environmental issues they

were involved in such as the planting of trees and the installing of new water fountains and the environmental film festival. These two young ladies are excellent verification of the benefits of the Environmental programs promoted by the schools within the Board. Jolene is going to Waterloo to take Environmental Resource Studies and Chelsea will be heading to Ottawa to study Bio Medical Services.

The 500 panels are expected to be installed by August and indeed, they were busy at work while the news conference was taking place. This news conference was a good news item no matter how you look at it and the benefits from the Energy Renewal Program initiated by the Ministry of Education and tapped into by the Board will continue to reap benefits for many years to come.

International Tug of War-Pulling for Peace-set to go

By Marlene Deschamps

The 4th Annual Tug of War will take place on Saturday, July 2nd. There will be the Celebrity Tug which will include 20 persons followed by the usual tug of war which will see 50 participants from each side of the border. This 2nd Tug of War will see the winner receive a trophy. Fort Frances won the first two years while International Falls won last year. The Fort Frances group are determined to regain their winning ways. The Celebrity Tug goes at 11 am while the regular tug is set to go around 11:30 am. This will be followed by a BBQ held by the Canada Day Committee. They will have hot dogs, hamburgers and refreshments and are requesting a donation for this.

The Celebrity Team will consist of:
Roy (Ace) Avis.
Paul (Foot Pedal Down) Ryan.
John (Italian Stallion) Albanese.
Ken (Polka Dot) Perry.

Andrew (Flying Finn) Hallikas.
Rick (Weed Man) Weidenhoeft.
Mark (Cheeze) McCaig.
Glen (Lefty) Tremlin.
Doug (Mork) Brown.
Faye (Fabulous) Flatt.
Frank (the Good) Sheppard.
Dave (Enforcer) Montgomery-ex football FFHScoach who was drafted by the CFL.
Jack (the Hammer) Cameron. Also former FFHS coach.
Bill (the Undertaker) Low former Vice Principal of FFHS and also drafted in the CFL.
Mike (Red Dog) Allison former NHL player.
Dave (Big Red) Allison former NHL player.
MP John (Relentless) Rafferty.
MPP Howard (Hit Man) Hampton.
Ian (Simmer) Simpson.
Al (the Muscle) McManaman, Vice Principal at FFHS.
On Canada Day, International Falls Mayor, Shawn Mason and

Fort Frances Mayor, Roy Avis will be on a float having a tug of war over a tub of water to promote the International Tug of War Pulling for Peace. They will also have treats from the Town of Fort Frances to hand out to the kids that line the parade route.

You can find out all about the event, both past and present at www.internationaltugofwar.com. There you find the info and history of the tug of war. Weidenhoeft said he had invited the Premier and even the Prime Minister but had not heard from either. He also said they have applied to both the Canadian and American governments to request they declare July 2nd International Peaceful Border Day. He is also waiting to hear on that request. He is also hoping there will be a big turnout for this great annual international event that promotes the comradeship that exists at this border. He no doubt is confident that Fort Frances will win the coveted trophy. See ya all there.



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